INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

DLIS serves as the National Codification Bureau (NCB) for the United States. We are the focal point for logistics data exchange and cataloging ("codification") actions between nations. We identify and catalog US manufactured items for NATO and other allied governments. We also arrange for cataloging of NATO manufactured items being fielded by US forces. DLIS provides training and technical support in international codification to allied nations, and we represent the United States on International Cataloging Committees. You will find more information about DLIS's international mission at:
http://www.dlis.dla.mil/nato/default.asp.

THE U.S. NATIONAL CODIFICATION BUREAU (NCB)

Cataloging requests are processed from the Military Services and Supply Centers for all items manufactured overseas which require NSN assignment by an allied nation. DLIS catalogs U.S. items reciprocally for NATO nations, and under reimbursement through Foreign Military Sales cases for other allied nations. Around one quarter of the annual new NSNs assigned by the U.S. are in support of our allies. This volume reflects the significant place in the worldwide defense market held by U.S. equipment.

Over the past year, the International Division processed 47,362 requests for NSN assignments (either from or to our allied National Codification Bureaus). In coordination with our counterpart NCBs, we arranged for thousands of Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) codes to be assigned to foreign companies doing business with the U.S. government. This effort was to support the registration of these companies in the Central Contract Registry (CCR).

THE NATO CODIFICATION SYSTEM

The NATO Codification System (NCS) is the Cataloging system shared by the 26 member countries of NATO, and also by 25 non-NATO countries that are sponsored members of the system. Seven of the 26 NATO countries are new this year, because Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia joined NATO in March 2004. "Sponsorship" means the countries have signed a formal agreement with the NATO Group of National Directors on Codification (NATO Allied Committee 135 (AC/135)), which governs the NCS. The NCS is based on

the U.S. Federal Catalog System (FCS). DLIS represents the United States on both the NATO cataloging committee and on the Pacific Area Catalog Seminar (PACS). PACS is sponsored by Pacific Command, and is a group of countries in the Pacific region that use the NCS and seek to further its progress in that region. The DLIS Deputy is currently the chairman of AC/135.

The NCS benefits the U.S. by facilitating logistics interoperability with our allies. It promotes defense cooperation and provides a common logistics language that all parties can use in this process.

DLIS takes a leading role in encouraging the use of the system outside the NATO alliance. During FY2004, Finland, Indonesia, Oman, Albania, and Ukraine signed sponsorship agreements. A number of other nations have shown interest in the NCS, and AC/135 has exchanged information with them. These nations include Brunei, Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Switzerland, Sweden and United Arab Emirates.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

As the center of the U.S. and International "cataloging universe" DLIS hosts many foreign visitors each year who come to learn about our operations of a national cataloging center, and about the NATO standards for cataloging data. Visiting delegations this year have included representatives from the Defense Ministries of Chile, Mexico, Slovakia, Israel, and the United Arab Emirates. A special team came from the United Kingdom to discuss and compare data quality initiatives in our respective nations. Additionally, four representatives from Denmark came to take basic cataloging training under a Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case.

TRAINING SUPPORT IN THEATER

Customized training is also provided in-country through the Combatant Commands. In October 2003, the Polish National Codification Bureau (NCB) sponsored one such two-week FMS funded program in Warsaw. An executive overview of NATO Codification was presented to key Polish Defense officials on 20 Oct 2003 in Warsaw.

The audience included: Mr. Zemke, 1st Dep. Min. of Defense; LTG Konopka, Dep. Chf. General Staff; LTG Mainda, Cmdr Warsaw Garrison; LTG Juniec, J-4; and MG Pietrzyk, Coordinator for the Secretary Of State. One week of training was provided to NCB staff, one day to Military University staff, and three days to an audience of 80 logisticians from the military departments and defense industry. Twenty-two separate modules were presented by a two man DLIS team. The training supported Polish efforts to implement the NATO cataloging procedures nationally. DLIS also coordinated the arrangements for the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) to present a special course in the Czech Republic.

NATIONAL CODIFICATION BUREAU COLLEGE
BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN
CLASS OF 2004

THE NATIONAL CODIFICATION BUREAU COLLEGE

The premier training event of the year was the fifth annual DLIS "NCB College". Eighteen logisticians from the following twelve nations attended this eight week program: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Romania, and the United Kingdom. The program includes training in provisioning, cataloging, retail and wholesale US logistics operations, and detailed reviews of the major functions of a National Cataloging Center. In addition to a broad engagement of DLIS personnel, support was received from three DoD service schools, HQ Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS), Michigan Air National Guard, US Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM), Selfridge AFB, the NATO Maintenance and Supply

Agency (NAMSA) and instructors from the Belgium, Canada, France, and United Kingdom NCBs. To date, 65 students from 28 allied nations have attended this program.

DLIS PUBLISHES MULTILINGUAL CATALOGING STANDARDS

DLIS is responsible for maintaining the cataloging standards used in the NCS for naming and classifying material. In furtherance of this responsibility, DLIS   publishes a multilingual cataloging handbook on CD-ROM (designated as "Allied Codification Publication (ACodP-2/3)"). The ACodP-2 provides information on NATO Supply Groups (NSGs) and NATO Supply Classes (NSCs). The ACodP-3 contains the NATO Item Name Directory. Previously, this product was distributed in English and French only, the two official languages of NATO. In 2003, DLIS launched a multilingual version, which now includes twelve languages (Bulgarian, Czech, Dutch, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, and, Slovakian, Slovenian, and Spanish). Korean should be incorporated early next year, and a continued expansion of languages is forecast. The ACodP-2/3 is user friendly and has lan capability. It is available to military, government and private industry customers around the world.

WEBLINK INTERNATIONAL

Since released in 2001, WEBLINK International is DLA's logistics research tool available to our Foreign Military Sales (FMS) customers at no additional cost. It allows users to identify primary or substitute items of supply, search for available assets, track status of their requisitions, submit Supply Assistance Requests (SARs), and locate other DoD logistics systems. Users can submit individual, batch, or set up automatically recurring queries, and elect to receive responses on screen or via email. Developed in partnership between the Defense Automatic Addressing System Center (DAASC) and the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS), currently almost 100 customers from 21 different countries have WEBLINK-International accounts. The WEBLINK International users submitted 14,442 queries in FY04. This year WEBLINK International received a new look, feel, features, and query capabilities, conforming to DLA web design guidelines for a look consistent with other DLA websites. New to the DLA Standard Automated Material Management System (SAMMS) asset visibility queries are the display of Maximum Release Quantities (MRQ) to help alleviate cancelled requisitions. Also new to the SAMMS/Business Systems Modernization (BSM) queries are the ability to query by a 13-digit National Stock Number (NSN) or 9-digit National Item Identification Number (NIIN). Each customer must receive U.S. Government sponsorship and register for an

account on our website. WEBLINK International is not restricted to users on .mil or .gov networks, so customers located outside of the U.S. may access the system. However, for complete functionality users must have web browsers with a minimum 128-bit encryption and be html 4.0 compliant (i.e. Internet Explorer version 6.0 or higher, or Netscape version 7.0 or higher). To enable a better understanding of WEBLINK-International, DLIS developed a Computer Based Training (CBT) course, allowing users the flexibility to learn at their own pace. For more information on WEBLINK-International, go to: http://www.dlis.dla.mil/link_international.asp.

INVOLVEMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

DLIS continues to engage with industry and trade associations that certify and manage international standards. DLIS's primary engagement in this area in 2004 was with the International Organization of Standards (ISO) committee that manages the Standard for the Exchange of Product (STEP) model data. STEP is the worldwide standard for exchanging data related to design engineering. DLIS is involved in a project to get the commercial version of the Federal Catalog System (FCS) recognized as the international standard for cataloging in the commercial world and to change the STEP standard so that catalog data can be automatically derived from it.

The commercial version of the FCS is called the ECCMA Open Technical Dictionary (eOTD) and is managed by the Electronic Commerce Code Management Association (ECCMA). DLIS is working with ECCMA, the National Codification Bureau of the United Kingdom, Lehigh University, the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST), and a contractor on this project.

In a related development, ISO Technical Committee 31 (TC31) has assigned an Issuing Agency Code (IAC) to NATO Allied Committee 135 (AC/135). This assignment recognizes NATO Commercial and Governmental Entity (NCAGE) codes as standard identifiers for companies and other organizations. DLIS is the U.S. representative on AC/135. DLIS also manages the NCAGE program for U.S. companies and organizations. Among other things, the IAC designation will allow NCAGE codes to be used as Enterprise Identifiers (EIs) on Unique Identification (UID) tags.

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (FMS)

The continued interest and expansion in the NATO Codification System around the world and the need for cataloging services, publications and training, increased the FY04 FMS

reimbursements to $328K. This represents a 50% increase from the prior year.